

**Pilgrim Uniting Church
12 Flinders Street, Adelaide**

8.00am MORNING WORSHIP

47B

15th July 2018

GREETING AND COMMUNITY NEWS

CALL TO WORSHIP

God, the gracious source of life, is calling us,
calling us out of our ordinary lives to gather together in community,
to be the church at worship in this place and at this time;
and we are glad to be here.

God is calling us in Christ,
calling us to live within God's Word,
to be light in the darkness and good news to the poor;
and we are glad to be bearers of light and justice.

God is calling us through the Holy Spirit,
calling us to live out our baptism,
to be liberating hope where hope is scarce
and bring abundant grace to all who find themselves imprisoned;
and we are glad to be bringers of hope and freedom.

God is calling us,
so we pray that we might open ourselves
to the Spirit that dwells within us
and continue to grow and thrive in love and joy
as the colourful people of Christ. **Amen.**

Psalm of the day

Hymn: The Earth is the Lord's

(Tune: ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11, "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"; words: Carolyn Gillette Winfrey)

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."

Creation reminds us, O God, of your love.

By grace we are learning, as year leads to year,
We're called to be stewards, your caretakers here.

Your rainforests nurture the world that we share.
Your wetlands give animals shelter and care.
Your coral reefs cradle the life of the sea.
You've shown us, in love, what your good world can be.

May we be good stewards of all that you give,
Protecting creation wherever we live.
May we be a church that renews and restores
And lovingly cares for this earth that is yours.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us open our hearts to God in confession.
When we dishonour your creation,

and look away from you our Creator,
seeking other sources of life and hope.
O God have mercy: **have mercy on us.**
When we block the flow of your grace
drawing refreshment from the wells that leave us thirsty.
O Christ have mercy: **have mercy on us.**
When we fall short of your love for the world,
failing to love you with all that we are
and turning our backs on our neighbours.
O God have mercy: **have mercy on us.**
Call us again as your children
to return to you through the abundance of your grace
along the liberating highway of hope. (*A silence is kept*)

Words of Assurance

Brothers and sisters, God is love, and those who abide in love, abide in God and God abides in them. We love because God first loved us. Hear Christ's word of abundant grace, and drink deep from the well of his hope. We are loved. We are forgiven. We are free.
Thanks be to God.

BIBLE READINGS Ephesians 1: 3-14 (Mark 6: 14-29)

SHARING: ASSEMBLY 2018

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

Prayers are offered: This is my prayer/**This is our prayer**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN TiS 657 God of freedom, God of justice
During the singing of this hymn your offering will be received.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

For the wondrous gift of life, we are thankful, O God. Your generous outpouring of grace reminds us of the fruitful life we are called to bear. May these gifts of money, time and labour embody our desire to share and contribute to your mission in the world. Amen.

COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

Friends, look as you gather around this table. It is decked out with simple things, bread and wine, gifts of the earth that remind us that, like them, each one of us holds within us the fingerprints of God who made us. At this table, we are invited to dine with the saints and to feed our souls. Here we sit with the priests and prophets, prisoners and poets, whose testaments live in the pages of God's book, along with all the friends and faithful guides who live within our hearts. Here we remember God as creator, here we meet Jesus the Christ as our saviour, and here we are embraced by the Spirit of love.

And so, may God be with you/**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts/**we lift them up to our God.**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

With humble hearts, we acknowledge how remarkable it is that God calls us to gather at this table and become a sacred community; here the abundant grace of God nurtures us and

liberates us by hope; here we become people of God's good news who celebrate Christ's resurrection. So with this in mind, we raise our voices together with heaven and earth, all people throughout all time and in all places, and all of creation, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy God of all creation and life
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER

We remember how at a table not unlike this, Jesus gathered with his closest friends; even with the full knowledge that their belief would flounder and they would fail him, he ate with them. As the meal came to an end, he took the leftovers of ordinary things, bread and wine, and recreated them with a new purpose, so that they might become tools of reconciliation and forgiveness for those he loved.

We take this bread, and as we break it we remember Jesus' words: 'Take and eat, this is my body broken for you'. We take this cup, and as we raise it, we remember Jesus' words: 'Take and drink, this is my life, poured out for you and many for the forgiveness of sin'.

We refuse to exclude or bar anyone from joining us here. This table is open to all who desire to come and feast on God's love. Everyone is welcome, everyone is worthy.

Come, Holy Spirit, as we take our place at this table, gather us with all who have gone before us, all those men and women, our sisters and brothers, who throughout time have walked your way and been the living presence of the God in this world. Bless us now as we share this meal, and become benefactors of your goodness. Re-engage us with our desire to embrace what is wise, and to stand with those who hunger and thirst. Shape us into an accepting community who lives out your compassion and justice. Amen.

We break bread together
and we become the living body of Christ.
We share the cup together
and be become agents of God's grace.

Come to the table - this meal is ready,
no matter our faith or lack of it,
our courage or fears,
our capacity to love a little or a lot.
God desires our company here.

Bread is shared: Together we are becoming the body of Christ.

The cup is shared: Drink, and be renewed by the living Christ.

Prayer after communion

God, we have gathered here because you have loved and continue to love us and we are grateful. By sharing this meal you have reminded us that we are one community with many faces, you have forgiven us our shortcomings and fears, placed balm on our hurts and strengthened us to tackle the challenges that lie ahead of us. Now send us out into this imperfect world to be people of hope who flood the places in which we live, work and play with your abundant grace. Amen.

God's peace be with you/**and also with you.** *A sign of peace is shared.*

Liturgy resources from Opening worship and installation of the UCA President, Dr Deidre Palmer, and communion liturgy by Neryl McCallum.